

DEPARTMENT REPORT AUGUST, 2015

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Health Director attended the Lancaster County Management Team's Legislative Retreat on August 27th. The Team met with Lincoln area Senators and discussed legislation for the upcoming 2016 legislative session.

The Health Director is participating in the UNMC College of Public Health's community wide strategic planning effort to guide the College of Public Health over the next five years. The strategic planning effort includes four workgroups. The Health Director is participating in the Community Based Health Transformation Workgroup.

Staff met with the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) and presented documentation to seek reimbursement for expenses the Department incurred during the flooding events of earlier this spring.

The Department participated in the Annual City/County Food Drive for the Food Bank of Lincoln. The Administrative Aide served as the City and Department Coordinator. The City and County raised nearly \$20,000.00 and over 6,200 pounds of food for the Food Bank.

Employees of the Month – Raju Kakarlapudi and Deborah Byrne – Health Data & Evaluation Division.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Stats

	Sep 12- Jul 13	Sep 13- Jul 14	Sep 14- Jul 15
Pet Licenses Sold	57136	57861	57833
Cases Dispatched	21493	22314	21454
Investigation	23141	24053	23356
Animals Impounded			
Dogs	1431	1445	1305
Cats	1064	1119	1170
Court Citations Issued	307	372	354
Warnings/Defects Issued	13886	15545	14278

Bite Cases Reported	428	415	451
Attack Cases Reported	46	52	55
Dogs Declared Pot. Dangerous	69	72	74
Dangerous Dogs	19	13	24
Animal Neglect Investigations	682	713	660
Injured Animal Rescue	650	724	878
Wildlife Removal	376	433	532
Dead Animal Pickup	1821	1755	1866
Lost and Found Reports	2277	2108	2073
Phone Calls	43662	41541	42716
Average Response Time (in mins)	21	27	20

Staff completed the RFP for the Animal Control database system. The information for the RFP has been turned over to the City Purchasing Department and we are waiting for bids to come in from potential vendors.

Staff provided a presentation to over 100 Lincoln Electric System employees (mostly meter readers and field staff). LES has seen an increase of aggressive dog encounters and bites when going on the property of some owners while providing services. The presentation was well received and the audience had several questions and comments. We used some newer videos that are also used by the Lincoln Police Department. The Division Manager has also been working with the LPD Assistant Police Chief on opportunities for joint training regarding aggressive dogs and collaboration on LPD assists in the field.

The Animal Control PSAs are currently being aired on some of the Time Warner channels including; Fox News, Big Ten Network, ESPN, Teaching and Learning Channel, Animal Plant and the Weather Channel.

Animal Control staff are working on getting updates for our on-line licensing options for customers. One of the significant upgrades will be accepting electronic rabies certification information and on-line licensing for pet owners with never before licensed pets or new pets. Screens will also be redesigned to be more customer friendly.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Breastfeeding Promotion

Program Indicators:

- 1) *At least 75% of mothers served in the Healthy Families America (HFA) program will initiate breastfeeding.*
- 2) *At least 60% of mothers served in the HFA program will breastfeed for six weeks.*
- 3) *At least 40% of mothers served in the HFA program will breastfeed for six months.*

Because of the vast amount of scientific evidence showing that breastmilk is the most appropriate food for almost all infants, promoting the initiation and maintenance of breastfeeding is a key public health issue. With this in mind, Maternal-Child Health Services hosted a “Lactation Professional Continuing Education Course” on August 24th and 25th at LLCHD. The purpose of this training was to increase the knowledge and skills of health care providers in our community who offer breastfeeding support to women and infants or who influence policy that affects these patients. The course instructor was Lara Anderson RN, ASN, BGS, IBCLC, RLC. There were 47 health professionals in attendance from across the city, including our own Healthy Families America, Public Health Clinic and WIC staff who frequently interact with pregnant women and families with infants. The conference received very positive evaluations. A special thank you to Corrine Jarecke for leading this effort!

Most of the home visitors in the Healthy Families America program are Certified Lactation Counselors (CLCs). A CLS has completed 45 hours of education in breastfeeding and has successfully passed a certification exam. A CLC has demonstrated the knowledge and skill to:

- assess breastfeeding using a multi-faceted approach,
- use counseling skills and techniques that are supportive to breastfeeding mothers & babies,
- construct & maintain conditions that predispose mothers & babies to an uncomplicated breastfeeding experience through counseling, education, & support,
- assess for, monitor, & evaluate physical conditions that predispose mothers & babies to a complex breastfeeding experience,
- educate, counsel, & support families with complex breastfeeding situations,
- monitor & evaluate behavioral, cultural, & social conditions that predispose mothers & babies to complex breastfeeding conditions,
- identify & advocate for public health strategies that serve to protect breastfeeding, & coordinate care consistent with standards of professional ethics & behavior.

Two Healthy Families America public health nurses are IBCLCs (International Board Certified Lactation Consultants). An IBCLC is a health care professional who specializes in the clinical management of breastfeeding. In addition to clinical training as a nurse, dietician, midwife, pharmacist, physician or physical, occupational or speech therapist, an IBCLC completes 90 hours of education in breastfeeding and has successfully passed a certification exam.

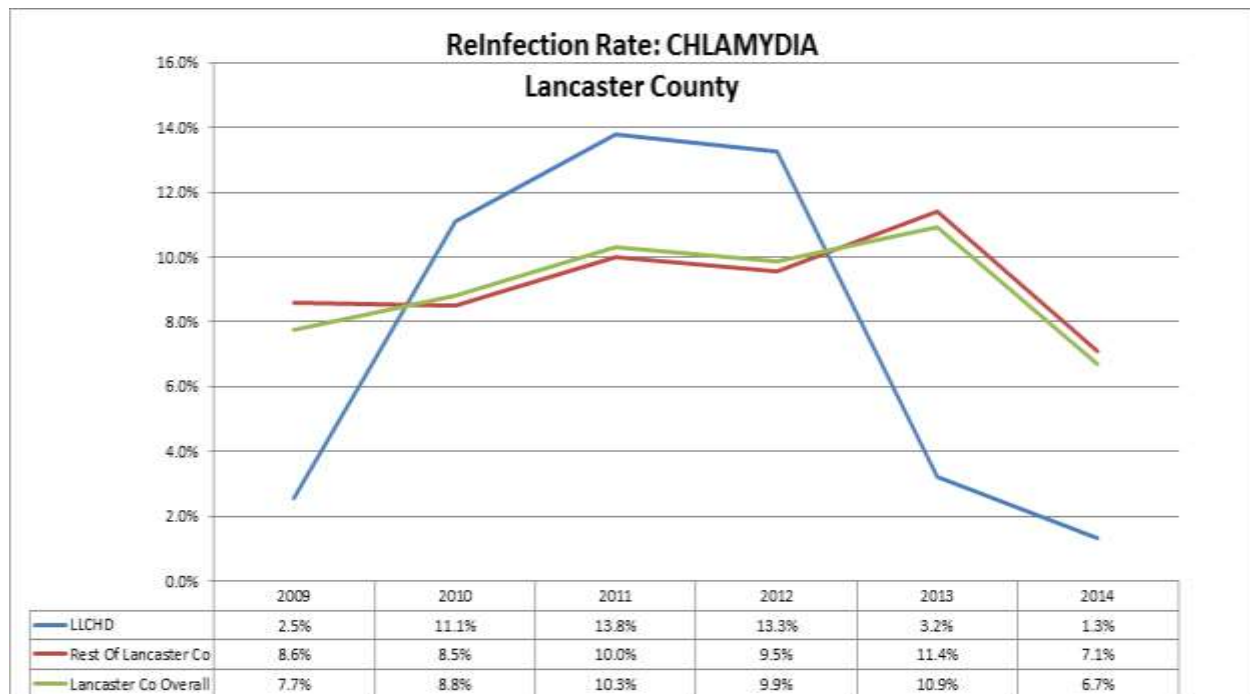
Clinic With A Heart – Back To School – Immunization Clinics

Program Indicator: Assure children and uninsured/underinsured adults have access to recommended immunizations.

CHS staff provided vaccines, record review, and education to low-income, hard-to-reach families with school aged children seeking a back-to-school physicals at two Clinic With A Heart events on August 8 and August 15, 2015. While less than a dozen children received vaccines, several dozen other families were served via record review and/or vaccine education.

Chlamydia Re-Infection

Program Indicator: The percentage of people who test positive for Chlamydia in the LLCHD Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Clinic and who have a subsequent positive Chlamydia infection within six months, will be no higher than the percentage in Lancaster County.



As a result of a quality improvement project started in August 2013, LLCHD's Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Clinic staff implemented a low-cost, high-impact nursing intervention. The intervention was based on a model developed at the University of New York/Buffalo Student Health Center. A new template for STI Clinic follow-up was developed within our electronic health record and tested by Jennifer Lantz, Bernice Afuh, and Betsy Resch. The template was implemented for use on May 20, 2014. Information & Referral (I&R) nurses provide follow-up as assessment and teaching.

All clients who visit LLCHD's STI Clinic and receive medication for Chlamydia, receive a telephone call within 1-2 business days from an I&R Nurse to assess the following:

- 1) Tolerance of medication treatment,
- 2) Abstinence from sexual contact since they were treated at LLCHD with medication, and
- 3) Testing for sexual partners.

Patients are referred back to LLCHD's STI Clinic if they did not tolerate their medication, if their sexual partner(s) have not been tested for Chlamydia, and if they have not remained abstinent from sexual contact. Standard education includes abstinence from sexual contact for 7 days after the patient and sexual partners have been treated.

Findings (May 20, 2014 - August 6, 2015):

- 257 unique patients were assessed.
- 3 patients were recorded as "not tolerating treatment".
- 98.9% of patients said they had not vomited within 2 hours after taking the medication for Chlamydia in our STI Clinic.
- 94% of patients said they were abstinent from sexual contact since their STI Clinic visit at the time of follow-up, which is 1-2 business days after their STI Clinic visit.
- 45% of patients said their sexual partner(s) were tested for Chlamydia at the time of follow-up.

DENTAL HEALTH & NUTRITION

WIC

Caseload (Participation)

Total	3670
Main	2792
Cornhusker Clinic	878

Food: For March 2015 -

Food Monthly Obligations	\$ 226,104.14
Food Pkg Avg.	\$ 69.98
Women	\$ 38.32
Infants	\$146.59
Children	\$ 45.63

Mentoring:

(Number and school)

Students	
Interns	2 UNL- RD
Volunteers	2 UNL- RD
LMEP Residents	

This was the third month of piloting the new Journey computer system for the State of Nebraska WIC Program. This was our highest number of participants since January 2015.

Dental Health

- Total number of clients served during all clinic hours (unduplicated count): 600
- Total number of patient encounters (duplicated client count): 757
- Total number of patient visits (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 1094
- Total number of Racial/Ethnic and White Non-English speaking patients: 477 (79.5%)
- Total number of children served: 486 (81%)
- Total number of clients enrolled in Medicaid: 395 (65.8%)
- Total number of clients that identified another language as their primary language: 284 (47.3%)
Bosnian, Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Farsi, French, Karen, Kurdish, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Japanese, Other).
- Clients served during **Thursday evening hours** (unduplicated count): 74
- Client encounters during Thursday evening hours (duplicated client count): 78
- Patient visits during Thursday evening hours (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 129
- Racial/Ethnic and White Non-English speaking patients during Thursday evening hours: 66 (89%)
- Children served during Thursday evening hours: 69 (93.2%)
- Patients enrolled in Medicaid during Thursday evening hours: 54 (73%)
- Total number of clients that identified another language as their primary language: 34 (45.9%)

Student Rotations

- 1 dental student from UNMC College of Dentistry

Outreach Activities

- Fluoride Varnish Program
- WIC Cornhusker Office and Main Office sites: 50 children and families

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Air Quality – Asbestos

The LLCHD Air Quality Section is responsible for administration of the Federal National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for asbestos activities in Lincoln and Lancaster County. Asbestos is a known carcinogen (causes lung cancer). When a structure that contains asbestos is remodeled or demolished, it must be thoroughly inspected and any asbestos material must be removed. Trained and licensed contractors must use rigorous control methods to properly contain the asbestos and prevent the release of material during removal, transport, and disposal in the landfill to ensure that it does not become a public health threat.

Since September 1, 2014, staff have reviewed and inspected 65 asbestos demolition and 37 asbestos removal projects at various locations in Lincoln and Lancaster County. Examples of projects include Lincoln Public Schools buildings, UNL buildings, NPPD Sheldon Station, Seventh Day Adventist Church 4801 A St., Nebraska Historical Museum, Nebraska Wesleyan Pioneer Hall, St. Mary's Church in Denton, Concrete Industries Office, Office Max, CVS Store 130 N. 66 St., and BNSF Havelock Shops. Demolition projects included St. Patrick Church, Christ Lutheran Church, UNL's Behlen Hall, BioChem Hall, and Park Student Apts., Baker's Hardware, Hickman Community Hall, Sun Mart Grocery, La Mexicana Restaurant (following a destructive fire), and a Runza Restaurant.



One enforcement action on was taken for failure to inspect/survey for asbestos prior to commencement of demolition or renovation and failure to provide proper notification for such activities. The civil penalty was \$845.00.

Air Quality - Indoor Air Quality

Goals (Purpose)

Protect human health by responding to complaints on indoor air quality and making recommendations or taking actions to prevent illness and disease.

Methods/Strategies (What we do)

- receive complaints and requests for service from the public
- provide phone consultation if no immediate health risk
- conduct investigations when necessary to protect health
- provide guidance on remediation of mold and other IAQ problems
- collaborate with B&S on enforcement

Indicator

Maintain capacity to respond to the public's request for indoor air investigations and complaints that could result in a negative impact on human health.

Funding/Source

City General Fund (63%); County General Fund (37%)

Indoor Air Complaints

FY 09	FY 10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15*
114	228	186	185	119	134	188

*FY15 to date as of 8/25/2015 (one week short of the entire fiscal year)

Of the 188 indoor air quality complaints received, 165 or 87% had mold as the primary allegation. Of those 165, only 2 were owner occupied residences. The remaining 163 consisted of 50 multi-family commercial residential apartments (3 or more apartments) and 113 single family/duplex residential rental properties.



Comparison

The percent of complaints from various types of residential setting remains similar to past years. The number of complaints increased 42% in FY15, with the majority attributed to mold exposures that resulted from major rain events and flooding in Lincoln.

Description

If immediate health risks are not reported, complaints from people living in rental properties are responded to by sending an Official Notice letter to the landlord informing them of the complaint and asking them to take action to address the problem. Such letters resulted in acceptable action the majority of the time; however, on-site investigations had to be performed in 80 cases. Staff recorded 888 technical assistance contacts helping people with questions or issues with poor indoor air quality. The majority of these were handled via phone. The Health Department is mandated to assess conditions that may pose health risks in apartments and hotels regulated under LMC 5.38, but none of the revenue generated by LMC 5.38 comes to the Health Department. Staff responds to complaints of poor IAQ; provide phone consultation on IAQ; conduct onsite inspections; provide consultation on HVAC issues to improve IAQ; coordinate with B&S on health aspects of housing code compliance, especially in apartments; coordinate enforcement actions; monitor IAQ with specialized equipment; and receive referrals from physicians. The Health Department

does not do testing for mold, but does test for Volatile Organic Chemicals, CO, H₂S, CO₂, Ammonia, Chlorine and particulate matter.

Partnerships & Efficiencies

All complaints and requests for service are screened and prioritized by professional staff. Only the most serious situations result in immediate onsite investigations. Health works closely with the Building and Safety Department to resolve issues and assure enforcement actions are taken when necessary to protect human health. Health encourages private parties to use licensed contractors trained in IAQ for remediation or HVAC modifications.

HEALTH DATA & EVALUATION

On July 16th we held the fourth meeting of the MAPP (Mobilizing for Action through Partnership and Planning) Committee to help us update the community health assessment that we last conducted in 2010-2011. There's a link to the MAPP webpage on the Health Department's home page, <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/health/data/MAPP.htm>, which includes the PowerPoint presentations from the first four meetings. We will continue to use this web page to provide updated information as we proceed with the various assessments. In addition to the updated information from the July 16 meeting, we also added a link to a SurveyMonkey survey for anyone to make comments about the MAPP process and any of the assessments.

At the July meeting members were presented the data on the size of a particular health problem, the local rate in comparison to state and national data and the historical trend of the data. Members were then asked to score some of the 80 health issues under discussion on the basis of four criteria: economic and social impact, changeability at the local level, capacity of the public health system to address issues related to the topic and political will to address the issue. Since we didn't get all of the 80 issues scored at the meeting, members were asked to finish the scoring by survey and the results will be shared at the August 27th MAPP meeting.

We have just confirmed the third West Nile virus (WNV), which is due to the onset of higher temperatures in July and early August. While the counts of mosquitos that carry disease are not particularly high, and the weather is seasonally cooler than most Augusts, we do expect more cases. The best prevention is to avoid walking at dawn or dusk and to use DEET or another deterrent when going outside.

It may seem that time is flying, but with the start of school we will begin school surveillance for absences due to flu and other illnesses at the start of September. It's also time for everyone six months of age or older to get vaccinated against the flu and the vaccine is now available at local pharmacies. This year's vaccine contains four different flu strains to better match the flu viruses that are expected to circulate in the U.S. this year. There are a variety of options for getting immunized against the flu (see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/whoshouldvax.htm#flu-shot>): a nasal spray for those who are 2 through 49 and can be vaccinated with a weakened virus (nasal sprays contain four strains of flu virus—they are quadrivalent), flu "shots" with three (trivalent) or four (quadrivalent) strains, a high dose for the elderly and even a shot (intradermal) that has a

tiny needle for those adults 18 to 64 who hate needle sticks. Please note the quadrivalent vaccines contain a second type B flu strain so they should provide better prevention against the flu than trivalent vaccines. With all of the options available there should be no excuses for anyone not getting immunized.

HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTRECH

Chronic Disease Prevention

Staff continue to work with Channel 10 Health and community partners to create and distribute short educational videos and PSAs on bike and pedestrian safety. These are intended to be used widely in the community with youth serving organizations, schools, families, worksites, neighborhood associations, bike safety educators, senior centers and anyone who would provide bicycle and pedestrian safety information to the public. These are also intended for motorist education with the Share the Road theme. In addition, starting in September, a segment on bike and pedestrian safety will be shown in every movie theater before every movie for two and a half months. There will be seven short videos (2-4 minutes) and 8-10 PSAs on a variety of safety topics. Following are a few links to information about biking in Lincoln:

The N street protected bikeway, visit: www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword – N street)

Biking in Lincoln visit: www.lincoln.ne.gov (keyword – biking)

Share the Road: N Street Protected Bikeway PSA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L08yONf6Qqk>

Share the Road: Trail Etiquette (video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ULCIkdxwFQ&feature=youtu.be>

Share the Road: Bicycle Accessories (video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AH0U6xD0UdE&feature=youtu.be>

Shape of the City: Bicycling Segment (video)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWSJkgkW34g&list=PLZo1CTOiySCo-tp_DSMN58wxg9S6SZz7&index=25

Look for these by the end of August:

Share the Road: Street and Trail Signage (video)

Share the Road: City Bike Lincoln Webpage PSA

Share the Road: Bicycle Riding Laws (video)

Share the Road: Bike Share Program PSA

Injury Prevention

Staff coordinated a safety seat check event at Honda of Lincoln. Eleven certified child passenger safety technicians checked 28 car seats. This event was co-sponsored by Safe Kids Lincoln Lancaster County and Honda of Lincoln.

Staff provided a car seat check event in Malcolm in conjunction with the annual Malcolm auto show. While technicians checked only 8 seats, there was enough interest shown by Malcolm Village administration and community volunteers to bring the event back next year during the car show, but in a more prominent location and with additional promotion.

Staff presented pedestrian and bike safety tips for parents, children, and drivers for the start of the school year on the Channel 10/11 Moms Every Day Moments show.

INFORMATION & FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Information Management staff and Health Director's Administrative Aide have begun training with PowerDMS. They are in the process of planning the organizational infrastructure that will be used as we convert our manual policies files to interactive electronic files

Information Management staff are working closely with the Department's Epidemiologist to develop an application for managing and monitoring division indicators and performance measures.